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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
ACCORDING TO 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)**

APPLICANT(S): Aschoff, et al.                      DOCKET NO: P03,0378  
SERIAL NO.: 10/669,075                      ART UNIT: 2856  
FILED: September 23, 2003                      EXAMINER:  
CONF. NO. 2710  
TITLE: INTERFACE DEVICE FOR AUDIOLOGICAL DEVICES AND  
CORRESPONDING METHOD TO EXCHANGE DATA

Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and the requirements of 37 C.F.R. §1.98, Applicant respectfully requests that a citation and examination of the references identified on the attached PTO 1449 form be made during the course of examination of the above-identified application for United States Patent.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed according to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b) and before the latter occurrence of:

- (1) three months from the filing date of a national application;
- (2) three months from the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 C.F.R. 1.491 in an international application; or
- (3) the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits.

**REMARKS**

The attached PTO 1449 form lists related art references for the above identified application.

**EXPLANATION OF RELEVANCE**

References AA and AL were cited during the prosecution of the priority application. Reference AA is in English, so no further commentary on its teaching is required. Reference AL is a German-language patent document. And English-

language translation of the abstract has been provided, and a full translation will be produced at the request of the Examiner.

The filing of the present Information Disclosure Statement is not to be construed as a representation that a search has been made, and is not to be construed as an admission that the information cited in the present Information Disclosure Statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b).

The above citation of related art is not a representation that such art constitutes a complete or exhaustive listing of all pertinent related art, nor that it necessarily includes the closest or most relevant art. The aforementioned citation comprises a voluntary citation of related art of which applicant and his attorney are presently aware and is not intended to serve as a substitute for the Examiner's own search.


Submitted by,

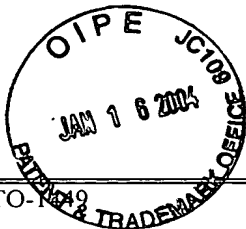
 (Reg. No. 45,877)

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#### **CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 on January 13, 2004.

  
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Form PTO-1049 <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION</b> (use several sheets if necessary)					Docket No. P03,0378		Serial No. 10/669,075	
					Applicant Aschoff et al			
					Filing Date September 23, 2003		Group Art Unit 2856	
<b>U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>								
Examiner's Initials		Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If appropriate	
	AA	6,381,617	04/30/2002	Frolund et al				
	AB							
	AC							
	AD							
	AE							
	AF							
	AG							
	AH							
	AI							
	AJ							
	AK							
<b>FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>								
		Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation	
							Yes	No
	AL	198 49 810	05/11/2000	Germany			Abstract	
	AM							
	AN							
	AO							
	AP							
	AQ							
	AR							
	AS							
<b>OTHER PRIOR ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)</b>								
	AT							
	AU							
	AV							
	AW							
Examiner				Date Considered				
<b>*EXAMINER:</b> Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.								